



**Rocky Mountain
Remediation Services, L.L.C**
protecting the environment

Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site

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CORRES CONTROL

December 29, 1998

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DIST LTR ENG

INSON C A

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ILLS STEVE

VERLID T W

ATTERSON J W

JYTON S R

KICE KELLY

HEELER M

OLF, K

emski, Mike X X

Wadey, Craig X X

Wadey, B. X X

Norma Castaneda

ES&H Program Assessment

DOE, RFFO

TRANSMITTAL OF QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT FOR THE MOUND SITE PLUME
PROJECT - ALP-054-98

Action Delivery of Quarterly Status Report for the Mound Site Plume Treatment Project
by December 31, 1998

Rocky Mountain Remediation Services (RMRS) is pleased to deliver the attached copy
of the Quarterly Report for the Mound Site Plume Treatment Project in fulfillment of the
scheduled milestone due December 31, 1998

If there is any additional information you like to have incorporated into the existing format
for the next quarter's project report, please do not hesitate to contact Annette Primrose
at extension 4385 or pager 212-6338

A L Primrose

A L Primrose

Project Manager

Groundwater Remediation

Original and 1 cc - N Castaneda

Attachment

As Stated

cc

- Butler - Kaiser-Hill

Γ C Greengard - Kaiser-Hill

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BZ-1113-B-00026

**QUARTERLY REPORT
FOR THE
MOUND SITE PLUME TREATMENT PROJECT
OCTOBER 1998 THROUGH DECEMBER 1998**

December 29, 1998

INTRODUCTION

The Mound Site Plume Treatment System collects and treats the contaminated groundwater plume derived from the Mound Site to the groundwater Action Level Framework Tier II level concentrations defined in the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) (DOE, 1996), and demonstrates the feasibility of using this system on other contaminated groundwater plumes

Installation of a 230-foot long below-grade impermeable barrier membrane/collection system along with two treatment cells was completed on September 18, 1998. Startup and repair activities were completed and the EPA SITE program began effluent sampling on October 28, 1998. This was performed after the EPA SITE Program and Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) personnel agreed that the tap water emplaced in the reactor vessels during construction had been displaced by contaminated groundwater from the Mound Site plume. This report covers the activity and available data for the quarter from October 1 to December 31, 1998. Completion of the installation and repairs to the treatment system during this quarter limits the detail that can be provided.

The Mound Site Plume Treatment Project was a cooperative effort between RFETS and the Department of Energy Subsurface Contaminant Focus Area (EM-50), with support from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) SITE Program. The Mound Site Plume Treatment Project employs innovative technology for the collection and treatment of contaminated groundwater containing chlorinated organic contamination and low levels of radionuclides. Table 1 shows the constituents greater than Tier II levels from water collected in 1995 at the SW059 seep below the Mound Site, which represents the majority of the water collected by this system.

The project has had no safety issues. The repairs identified during the startup and shakedown period have been completed. The lessons learned from the installation and startup of the Mound Site Plume Treatment Project were incorporated into both the East Trenches project and the Solar Pond Plume project.

PROJECT EVENTS

The two treatment cells each contain 8 feet of iron filings that act as the treatment medium for the contaminated water. With proper maintenance, the life expectancy of iron filings is from 5 to 10 years. The surface of the iron filings require regular raking with an asphalt rake to prevent formation of a crust. A delay in the startup of the maintenance during the startup and shakedown period allowed a crust to form on the surface of the iron filings layer in the first treatment cell. The crust formed from contact with the contaminated groundwater for the period from mid-July through August. The crust was mottled tan and rust-colored, and was up to 2 inches thick and was broken-up with a

concrete vibrator Pieces of the crust were collected on December 16 for isotopic analysis, with results expected on January 18, 1999 The crust will be removed from the treatment cell and appropriately disposed based on the results of the samples

Leaks in the treatment system were detected and repaired during the startup and shakedown period with no release of contaminated groundwater. However, a December 1st investigation into additional piping problems at the treatment system revealed a small leak from the inlet pipe into the first treatment cell Contaminated groundwater dripped back underground in the plume area when water levels in the treatment vessel rose over approximately one foot over the level of the inlet pipe during leak testing The amount of water released into the ground could not be quantified, but was likely small because of the location of the leak, and because the inlet pipe is under low pressure as the system is gravity fed No spill of untreated water into South Walnut Creek took place The occurrence was reported with tracking number 98-0730 A fact finding and path forward meeting were held and the appropriate repairs were performed for this and the other identified leak Pressure and static head tests were then conducted to verify that the system was functioning as designed Final repairs were completed on December 11, 1998 Backfill and compacting were finished on December 14 Installation of valve labels and the construction of a gravel path to the treatment cells also took place during this time period

Intermittent flow rate tracking took place from July through November due to insufficient battery power to continuously operate the tracking system The problem was corrected by replacing instrumentation, improving the alignment of the solar panel that charges the battery and reducing the data collection interval from once every 30 seconds to once every minute to reduce drain on the battery Data collection has been continuous following these changes which were completed on November 18, 1998

The system was designed so that no freeze protection will be necessary During the December 1998 cold snap, no ice was observed within the system indicating that the burial depth does provide sufficient insulation to prevent freezing

TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS

Available flow rates from the treatment system for the October-November period are shown on Figure 1 The lines shown connect the average flow rates over approximately a 24-hour period intermittently during the two months The flow rate can range from zero to slightly over 8 gallons per minute with averages changing due to precipitation and testing or repairs High initial flow rates were attributed to groundwater storage within the collection trench Flow rates then decreased over time Water levels within the collection trench are shown in Table 2 and were determined by 5 piezometers (P1 through P5)

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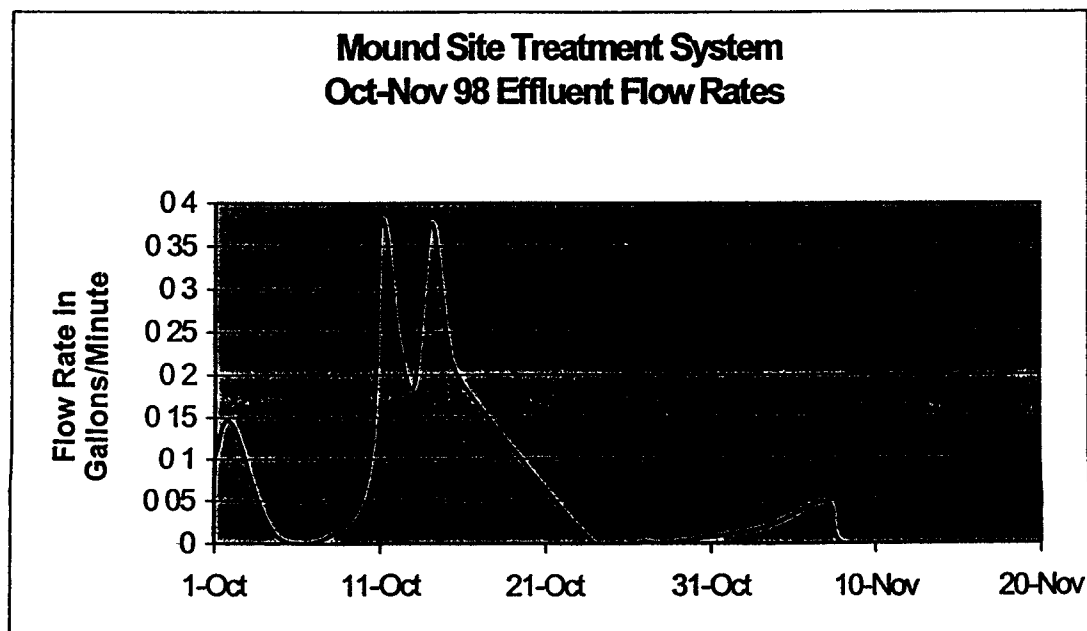
Table 1 Seep SW059 Contaminants of Concern Greater than Tier II Groundwater or Surface Water Action Levels in 1995 (from the Mound Site Plume Decision Document - DOE, 1997)

Chemical Name	Min Value	Max Value	Avg Detect	No Detects	GW Tier I Action Levels	GW Tier II Action Levels	SW Action Levels	GW Back-ground	SW Back-ground	Action Level Exceeded
Total Americium-241 (pCi/l)	0	0.25	0.08	7	15	0.15	0.15**	0.03	0.02	GW Tier II and SW
Total Uranium isotopes (pCi/l)	17.6	17.6	17.6	1	NA	NA	10	NA	1.63	SW
Total Uranium-233,-234 (pCi/l)	2.81	5.4	3.69	6	298	3	NA	85.3	1.59	U233+D only above GW Tier II
Total Uranium-238 (pCi/l)	2.25	5.03	3.16	6	77	1	NA	60.3	1.23	GW Tier II
Carbon Tetrachloride (ug/l)	3	120	29.29	14	500	5	5	NA	NA	GW Tier II and SW
Chloroform (ug/l)	5	25	8.5	14	10,000	100	6	NA	NA	SW
Methylene Chloride (ug/l)	0.1	0.3	0.14	6	500	5	5	NA	NA	GW Tier II and SW
Tetrachloroethene (ug/l)	1	21	9.29	14	500	5	5	NA	NA	GW Tier II and SW
Trichloroethene (ug/l)	5	71	12.79	14	500	5	5	NA	NA	GW Tier II and SW
Vinyl Chloride (ug/l)	0.7	3	0.55	4	200	2	2	NA	NA	Max value above GW Tier II and SW

Note. Background values are equal to the background mean plus two standard deviations.

** A surface water action level of 0.05 pCi/l for Americium 241 will be met until January 1998

Figure 1. Effluent Flow Rates



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Table 2. Piezometer Water Levels (showing levels measured in the collection trench)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Piezometer</u>	<u>Water Level</u> (in feet below top of casing)
8/05/98	P1	dry
	P2	11 43
	P3	8 84
	P4	8 91
	P5	11 91
10/09/98	P1	dry
	P2	10 55
	P3	7 8
	P4	7 93
	P5	not measured
10/22/98	P1	dry
	P2	11.1
	P3	8.47
	P4	8.53
	P5	11.51
10/28/98	P1	dry (TD - 10 9 feet)
	P2	10 6
	P3	8 0
	P4	8 0
	P5	not measured

TABLE 3 Mound Plume Treatment System Analytical Results (Preliminary) In ug/l

Sample Number	Effluent 09/22/98		Effluent Trip Blank 09/22/98		Collection Sump 11/04/98		Top of Reactor 1 (Influent) 11/04/98		Effluent 11/04/98		Trip Blank 11/04/98	
	Result	Detection Limit	Result	Detection Limit	Result	Detection Limit	Result	Detection Limit	Result	Detection Limit	Result	Detection Limit
Sample 1	ND	10.0	ND	10.0	ND	25.0	ND	25.0	180.0	83.0	ND	10.0
Sample 2	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 3	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	10.0	ND	10.0	ND	17.0	ND	1.0
Sample 4	ND	2.0	ND	2.0	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 5	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	17.0	ND	2.0
Sample 6	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	57.0	2.5	52	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 7	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 8	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 9	ND	2.0	ND	2.0	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	17.0	ND	2.0
Sample 10	1.0	0.5	ND	0.5	23.0	2.5	21	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	0.5
Sample 11	ND	2.0	ND	2.0	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	17.0	ND	2.0
Sample 12	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	1.6J	2.5	1.3J	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 13	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	0.55J	2.5	0.53J	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 14	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	4.0	2.5	3.8	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 15	ND	0.5	ND	0.5	30.0	1.2	27	1.2	ND	4.2	ND	0.5
Sample 16	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	26.0	2.5	23	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 17	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 18	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 19	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 20	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	12.0	ND	12.0	ND	42.0	ND	5.0
Sample 21	0.76 J	1.0	0.28 J	1.0	0.75J	2.5	0.97J	2.5	2.6J	8.3	0.99J	1.0
Sample 22	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	12.0	ND	12.0	ND	42.0	ND	5.0
Sample 23	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 24	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 25	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 26	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	35.0	2.5	31	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 27	0.14 J	1.0	0.13 J	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 28	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	4.8	2.5	4.2	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 29	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	64.0	2.5	59	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 30	ND	2.0	ND	2.0	1.0J	5.0	0.83J	5.0	ND	17.0	ND	2.0
Sample 31	ND	1.0	ND	1.0	ND	2.5	ND	2.5	ND	8.3	ND	1.0
Sample 32	ND	5.0	ND	5.0	ND	12.0	ND	12.0	29J	42.0	ND	5.0

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